

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as indicated hereafter (where underlining “_” denotes additions and strikethrough “-” denotes deletions).

Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A communication method, comprising:
receiving by a cellular base station a wireless data request for a telecommunications cellular service from a wireless client;
providing by the cellular base station a local exchange point of presence to the wireless client in response to the request, the local exchange point of presence selected based on the current geographic location of the wireless client; and
providing the telecommunications cellular service to the wireless client with a local telephone number through the local exchange point of presence, wherein the cellular base station provides cellular telephone services.
2. (Currently Amended) The telecommunications method of claim 1, wherein the telecommunications cellular service comprises at least one of a messaging service, an information service, a paging service, a voicemail service, a facsimile service, an interactive voice response service, and a text-to-speech service.
3. (Original) The communications method of claim 1, wherein the wireless client comprises at least one of a mobile telephone, a personal digital assistant, and an interactive pager.

4. (Currently Amended) The communications method of claim 1, further comprising establishing a connection to the wireless client and providing a menu of telecommunications services capable of being displayed by the wireless client.

5. (Currently Amended) The communications method of claim 4, wherein establishing a connection to the wireless ~~device~~ client comprises exchanging user information over a control channel.

6. (Original) The communications method of claim 1, wherein receiving the request for telecommunications service comprises receiving a user input through a graphical user interface displayed on the wireless client.

7. (Original) The communications method of claim 1, wherein providing the local exchange point of presence to the wireless client comprises detecting a geographic location of the wireless client.

8. (Original) The communication method of claim 7, wherein the geographic location of the wireless client is detected during call set-up.

9. (Original) The communications method of claim 1, wherein providing the local exchange point of presence to the wireless client comprises referencing a lookup table associating geographic locations with local contact information.

10. (Original) The communications method of claim 1, wherein providing the local exchange point of presence comprises providing a local telephone number to the wireless client.

11. (Original) The communications method of claim 10, wherein the local telephone number includes an exchange corresponding to the geographic location of the wireless client.

12. (Original) The communications method of claim 1, wherein providing the local exchange point of presence comprises providing a local IP address to the wireless client.

13. (Original) The communications method of claim 1, wherein providing the telecommunications service comprises routing messages from a local gateway over an intermediate network to a remote gateway, thereby avoiding long distance charges.

14. (Previously Presented) The communications method of claim 13, wherein the intermediate network comprises at least one of the Internet, the World Wide Web, and a telephone network.

15. (Original) The communications method of claim 1, wherein providing the telecommunications service comprises routing messages from a local gateway wireless client through at least one top node to a remote gateway, thereby avoiding long distance charges.

16. (Original) The communications method of claim 1, wherein providing the telecommunications service comprises communicating with the wireless client from a first gateway local to the geographic location of the wireless client.

17. (Original) The communication method of claim 16, further comprising:
communicating with a second wireless client from a second gateway local to the geographic location of the second wireless client, the first and second gateways being geographically remote from each other; and
routing messages from the first gateway to the second gateway through at least one of an intermediate network and a top node, thereby avoiding long distance charges.

18. (Original) The communication method of claim 16, further comprising:
communication with a server system from a second gateway local to the
geographic location of the server system, the first and second gateways
being geographically remote from each other; and
routing messages from the first gateway to the second gateway through at least
one of an intermediate network and top node, thereby avoiding long
distance charges.

19. (Previously Presented) The communications method of claim 1,
wherein receiving a request for a telecommunications service from a wireless
client comprises:

establishing a connection to the wireless client including
exchanging user information over a control channel;
examining the user information to verify that telecommunication
services are available to the client
providing a menu of available telecommunication services; and
receiving input from the wireless client, the input chosen from the
menu of telecommunication services;

wherein providing by a cellular base station a local exchange point of presence to
the wireless client in response to the request comprises:

detecting a geographic location of the wireless client, the
geographic location encompassing a business or residential
address;

referencing the geographic location in a lookup table; and

providing local contact information from the lookup table, the local contact information associated with the geographic location in the lookup table; and

wherein providing the telecommunications service to the wireless client with a local telephone number through the local exchange point of presence comprises:

receiving a message at a local gateway;

determining a remote gateway for transmission of the message;

and

routing the message to the remote gateway through at least one of an intermediate network and a top node.

20. (Currently Amended) A communication apparatus comprising a gateway configured to:

receive a wireless data request for a telecommunications cellular service from a wireless client;

provide by a cellular base station a local exchange point of presence, wherein the cellular base station provides cellular telephone services to the wireless client in response to the request, the local exchange point of presence based on the geographic location of the wireless client; and

provide the telecommunications cellular service to the wireless client with a local telephone number through the local exchange point of presence, wherein the cellular base station provides cellular telephone services.

21. (Currently Amended) A communications apparatus, comprising:

means for receiving by a cellular base station a wireless data request for a telecommunications cellular service from a wireless client;

means for providing by a cellular base station a local exchange point of presence to the wireless client in response to the request, the local exchange point of presence selected based on the geographic location of the wireless client; and

means for providing the telecommunications cellular service to the wireless client with a local telephone number through the local exchange point of presence, wherein the cellular base station provides cellular telephone services.

22. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium encoded with a program executable by a computer comprising:

logic configured to receive by a cellular base station a wireless data request for a telecommunications cellular service from a wireless client;

logic configured to provide by a cellular base station a local exchange point of presence to the wireless client in response to the request, the local exchange point of presence selected based on the geographic location of the wireless client; and

logic configured to provide the telecommunications cellular service to the wireless client with a local telephone number through the local exchange point of presence, wherein the cellular base station provides cellular telephone services.

23. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 22, wherein the computer-readable medium comprises at least one of a disk, a client device, and a network device.

24. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 22, wherein the telecommunications service comprises at least one of a messaging service, an information service, a paging service, a voicemail service, a facsimile service, an interactive voice response service, and a text-to-speech service.